



Washington
Community
School
District

2026-2027

Washington High School Course Description Guide



WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE



Names & descriptions of all courses offered at WHS in the 2026-2027 school year

Graduation Requirements

General Education Program High School Diploma Track				
Subject	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
English - 8 credits	English 9 A & B	English 10 A & B	English 11 A & B	Must have 1 Reading credit & 1 Writing credit <u>Reading Options:</u> English 12A, Modern Prose, AP English, KW Fund. of Oral Comm. <u>Writing Options:</u> English 12B, AP English, Business & Technical Writing, KW Composition I, KW Composition II
Math - 6 credits	Algebra I A & B	Geometry A & B	Algebra II A & B <u>OR</u> Algebra II A & B College Prep	
Science - 6 credits	Biology A & B	Chemistry I A & B	Physics A & B	
Social Sciences - 6 credits	World Geography	US History A & B	Modern European History	Modern US History (1952-1979) <u>OR</u> Modern US History (1979-Present) <u>AND</u> American Government
Physical Education - 4 credits	PE Fitness for Life <u>OR</u> PE Strength & Speed <u>OR</u> PE Team Sports <u>OR</u> Early Bird Strength & Speed	PE Fitness for Life <u>OR</u> PE Strength & Speed <u>OR</u> PE Team Sports <u>OR</u> Early Bird Strength & Speed	PE Fitness for Life <u>OR</u> PE Strength & Speed <u>OR</u> PE Team Sports <u>OR</u> Early Bird Strength & Speed	PE Fitness for Life <u>OR</u> PE Strength & Speed <u>OR</u> PE Team Sports <u>OR</u> Early Bird Strength & Speed
Personal Finance - 1 credit				Personal Finance
Total Credits Required to Graduate = 56 Credits (31 required credits + 25 elective credits)				

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AGRICULTURE

Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Agricultural Business	11, 12	1 Term	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I AND Plant Science I Recommended: Animal Science I
Agricultural Carpentry	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Intro to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I
Agricultural Leadership	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Intro to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I
Agricultural Metals	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Intro to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I
Agronomy	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Intro to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I
Animal Science I	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Intro to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I
Animal Science II	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Intro to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I & Animal Science I
Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Intro to Ag, Food & Natural Resources II	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Intro to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I
Natural Resources Management	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Intro to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I
Plant Science I	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Intro to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I
Plant Science II	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Intro to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I & Plant Science I

Agricultural Business

Duration	1 Term	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I & Plant Science I Recommended: Animal Science I

Course Description: Students will complete hand-on activities, projects and problems designed to build content knowledge and technical skills in the field of agricultural business management. Students are expected to become proficient at projects involving entrepreneurship, record keeping, financial analysis, risk management, communications, sales, marketing, and job applications and interviews. Research and experimental design will be highlighted as students develop and conduct industry appropriate investigations.

Agricultural Carpentry

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I

Course Description: Students will complete hands-on activities, projects, and problems designed to build content knowledge and technical skills in the field of agriculture structures. Students are expected to become proficient at projects involving shop safety, hand tool safety, power tool safety, hand tool & power tool usage, project planning and bidding, computer animated design, and wood products. Research and experimental design will be highlighted as students develop and conduct appropriate investigations.

Agricultural Leadership

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I

Course Description: Agricultural Leadership will prepare students for a successful career in agriculture. Students will be introduced to careers in the eight different agricultural fields. During this course, students will learn about the key tools needed to go into the work force and how to be prepared with those tools. This course will focus on communication skills necessary to be a successful adult in a working career.

Agricultural Metals

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I

Course Description: Students will complete hands-on activities, projects, and problems designed to build content knowledge and technical skills in the field of agricultural welding. Students are expected to become proficient at projects involving shop safety, welding safety and PPE, metal cutting, and metal fabrication. Research and experimental design will be highlighted as students develop and conduct industry appropriate investigations.

Agronomy

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I

Course Description: Students will complete hands-on activities, projects, and problems designed to build content knowledge and technical skills in the field of agronomy. Students are expected to become proficient at projects involving soil evaluation, land improvement, tillage, planting, integrated pest management, harvest and fertilization. Research and experimental design will be highlighted as students develop and conduct industry appropriate investigations.

Animal Science I

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I

Course Description: Students will explore hands-on projects and activities to learn the characteristics of animal science and work on major projects and problems similar to those that animal science specialists; such as veterinarians, zoologists, livestock producers, or industry personnel, face in their respective careers.

Animal Science II

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I & Animal Science I

Course Description: Students will continue to explore hands-on projects and activities to learn the characteristics of animal science and work on major projects and problems similar to those that animal science specialists; such as veterinarians, zoologists, livestock producers, or industry personnel, face in their respective careers.

Introduction to Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources I

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: Students will experience exciting hands-on activities, projects, and problems. Student experiences will involve the study of communication, the science of agriculture, plants, animals, natural resources, and agricultural mechanics. While surveying the opportunities available in agriculture and natural resources, students will learn to solve problems, conduct research, analyze data, work in teams, and take responsibility for their work, actions, and learning. For example, students will work in groups to determine the efficiency and environmental impacts of fuel sources in a practical learning exercise. Woven through the course are activities to develop and improve employability skills of students through practical applications. Students will explore careers and post-secondary opportunities in each area of the course.

Introduction to Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources II

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I

Course Description: Students will continue their experience with hands-on activities, projects, and problems. Student experiences will involve the study of communication, the science of agriculture, plants, animals, natural resources, and agricultural mechanics. While surveying the opportunities available in agriculture and natural resources, students will learn to solve problems, conduct research, analyze data, work in teams, and take responsibility for their work, actions, and learning. For example, students will work in groups to determine the efficiency and environmental impacts of fuel sources in a practical learning exercise. Woven through the course are activities to develop and improve employability skills of students through practical applications. Students will explore careers and post-secondary opportunities in each area of the course.

Natural Resources Management

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I

Course Description: Students will complete hands-on activities, projects, and problems designed to build content knowledge and technical skills in the field of natural resources management. Students are expected to become proficient at projects involving wildlife management, forestry, soil conservation, and water management. Research and experimental design will be highlighted as students develop and conduct industry appropriate investigations.

Plant Science I

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I

Course Description: This course is structured to enable students to have a variety of experiences that will provide an overview of the field of agricultural science with a foundation in plant science so that students may continue through a sequence of courses through high school. Students will work in teams, exploring hands-on projects and activities, to learn the characteristics of plant science and work on major projects and problems similar to those that plant science specialists; such as horticulturalists, agronomists, greenhouse and nursery managers and producers, and plant research specialists, face in their respective careers.

Plant Science II

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Intro. to Ag, Food & Natural Resources I & Plant Science I

Course Description: This course is structured to enable students to have a variety of experiences that will provide an overview of the field of agricultural science with a foundation in plant science so that students may continue through a sequence of courses through high school. Students will continue with work in teams, exploring hands-on projects and activities, to learn the characteristics of plant science and work on major projects and problems similar to those that plant science specialists; such as horticulturalists, agronomists, greenhouse and nursery managers and producers, and plant research specialists, face in their respective careers.

ART			
Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Art & Culture	10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Art Studio	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Ceramics & Sculpture	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Art Studio
Drawing & Painting	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Art Studio
Graphic Design	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Art Studio
Photography	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Art Studio
Advanced Art (Repeatable)	11, 12	1 Term	Successful completion of 3 Art classes OR Teacher Approval Form

Advanced Art

Duration	1 Term	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Successful completion of 3 Art classes OR Teacher Approval

Course Description: In this class, students will complete three projects of their choice (flexibility depending on complexity and materials). Students will be required to maintain a daily blog of progress and will also compose artist statements.

Art Studio

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: Art Studio is the prerequisite for many other art classes in high school. This hands-on class includes drawing, painting, and sculpture. Emphasis will include the Elements of Art and Principles of Design and writing Artistic Statements for finished artwork. Learning different techniques on how to generate new ideas, self-reflection, class discussion, and group critiques are all important aspects of this class. Art Studio is offered in 2 formats; in a block format and in a skinny format, opposite band & choir.

Art & Culture

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: As a class we will begin to answer the questions, “Why do people create art?” and “What is art?” This course will include hands-on projects using many different materials and class discussions related to the proper use of art vocabulary, art history and how art is influenced by culture. New contemporary artists and art work will also be studied. Students will create an ongoing art journal among other hands-on projects including abstract expressionism drip/splatter paintings and graffiti style paintings using spray paint and templates.

Ceramic & Sculpture

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Art Studio

Course Description: This course studies three-dimensional forms with such materials as clay, styrofoam, paper and a variety of found objects. Areas of study include pottery techniques (both hand-building and wheel throwing) and additive/subtractive sculptural projects. Students will learn to reflect upon and assess the characteristics and merits of their own and other's artwork. Success in this course will be determined by the student's ability to problem solve and experiment. Students will learn about and practice safe and effective use of tools and equipment.

Drawing & Painting

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Art Studio

Course Description: This course is designed to get the student thinking like an artist. A variety of media will be used, such as pen & ink, graphite, charcoal, pastels, watercolor and acrylic paint, along with various printmaking materials. There is much student choice built into this class. Course work will include demonstrations, technique building exercises, critiques, discussions, final projects, and learning how to display artwork.

Graphic Design

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Art Studio

Course Description: Graphic Design includes the basics of visual communication through problem-solving by using the Design Thinking Process. Adobe Illustrator program basics will be learned and used throughout the term. Topics include projects in the areas of logo design, typography, cover design, and character development. Group critiques and discussions are a crucial aspect of this class. Consistent attendance is very important as skills during class time build upon each other working towards the final projects.

Photography

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Art Studio

Course Description: This course is designed to give the student an introductory look at visual communication through photography and photo editing. Units covered include photography composition techniques, photojournalism, basic photo editing through Adobe Photoshop, and portraiture. Group critiques and discussions are an important aspect of this course. Students will find that having access to their own digital camera or cell phone is very beneficial and is strongly suggested. A very limited number of basic digital cameras are available to borrow during class time, if needed.

BUSINESS			
Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Computer Applications	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Job Skills Development	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Computer Applications
On-the-Job Training	11, 12	1-4 Terms	Job Skills Development OR iJAG I, OJT Application & Instructor Approval
Personal Finance	10, 11, 12	1 Term	
PS Intro to Business	10, 11, 12	1 Term	
PS Personal Finance	10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Sports & Entertainment Marketing	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	

Computer Applications

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This course is designed as an introduction to the Microsoft Office Suite. Students create documents and complete projects using the following applications: Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, and Publisher. Topics to be covered include; flyers, research papers, cover letters, spreadsheets, basic presentations, and databases.

Job Skills Development

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Computer Applications

Course Description: Are you prepared for the world of work? Students will explore careers and work to create a career portfolio in this course. Students will also learn about finding, applying, and interviewing for a job, developing a positive attitude, and using appropriate business etiquette. Students will also develop workplace communication skills. Successful completion of this course will allow students to apply for the On-the-Job Training Program.

On-the-Job Training

Duration	1 - 4 Terms	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Job Skills Development OR iJAG I, OJT Application & Instructor Approval

Course Description: Juniors and seniors are given the opportunity to interview for work with an employer to sharpen basic employability skills in an area of interest. Students work during the school day, before school, after school, on weekends, or a combination thereof. Membership in the co-curricular student organization, Business Professionals of America, is a program requirement. Dues must be paid by September 15th. Seniors will be given priority for acceptance followed by juniors. Enrollment in the program is a full-year commitment. To enroll in the OJT program, one must; complete an OJT application and resume and turn the paperwork in with a letter of recommendation to Room 131 by March 10th.

Personal Finance

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This course is required to graduate and can be substituted with PS Personal Finance. Students will build a strong foundation in savings and checking accounts, discover ways to pay for college, learn effective budgeting strategies, learn what a credit score is and how it works, discuss credit cards and how to protect themselves from identity theft, learn various information about investing, what insurance is and the importance of having it for many life situations.

PS Intro to Business

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This class focuses on American and global business and introduces the student to each primary facet of operating a business. This course will help the student understand economic, social and political influences that affect business success.

PS Personal Finance

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: Personal Finance is the process of planning, spending, financing, and investing while implementing specific strategies and actions to optimize your financial circumstance and independence. This course is designed to explore the concepts of budgeting, tax planning, retirement planning, estate planning, insurance, financing, and investing while examining specific strategies and action steps related to each.

Sports & Entertainment Marketing

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: Sports and entertainment are important parts of our modern economy. Fans and companies spend billions of dollars each year on sports while entertainment represents one of the largest exports from the U.S. to the rest of the world. This course is designed to explore the marketing principles and processes used in the sports and entertainment industries. Advertising, public image, endorsements, promotions, and careers in the fields will be explored.

COMPUTER SCIENCE			
Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Computer Science Principles A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	
Game Development	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Computer Science Principles

Computer Science Principles

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This course introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and challenges them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. More than a traditional introduction to programming/coding, it is a rigorous, engaging, and approachable curriculum that explores many of the foundational ideas of computing so all students understand how these concepts are transforming the world we live in.

Game Development

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Computer Science Principles

Course Description: In this course, students will take the knowledge that they gained in Computer Science Principles, and apply it to game creation. In addition to programming a game, students will also learn about building virtual worlds, characters, and models. We will develop in Unity and learn the basics of Blender for modeling.

ENGLISH			
Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Advanced Creative Writing	11,12	1 Term	Creative Writing
**AP English Literature & Composition	11,12	2 Terms	English 11 A & B
Business and Technical Writing	12	1 Term	English 11 B
Creative Writing	10, 11, 12	1 Term	English 10 A & B
Earthbook: Literary Magazine	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	English 11 B (9th & 10th graders - by instructor approval)
English 9 A & B	9	1 Term	Must pass 9 A to take 9 B
English 10 A & B	9, 10	1 Term	English 9 B, Must pass 10 A to take 10 B
English 11 A & B	10, 11	1 Term	English 10 B, Must pass 11 A to take 11 B
English 12 Reading	11, 12	1 Term	English 11 A
English 12 Writing	11, 12	1 Term	English 11 B
Modern Prose	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	English 9 A & B
Practical Communication	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Yearbook	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	

**Advanced Placement Course

Note: All seniors must have at least 1 senior level reading credit and 1 senior level writing credit.

Reading Credit Options: English 12 A, Modern Prose, AP English, KW Fundamentals of Oral Communication

Writing Credit Options: English 12 B, AP English, Business & Technical Writing, KW Composition I, KW Composition II

Advanced Creative Writing

Duration	1 Term	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Creative Writing

Course Description: This course will expand on the skills students built in Creative Writing by using an open, student-driven format, to allow them to explore the areas of writing that interest them most. The course will be portfolio-based; the bulk of assignments will center around turning pieces in for this portfolio. There will be readings and discussions of mentor texts and lessons on different aspects of writing, which serve to grow a student's own skills and knowledge. Students will also participate in writing workshops to give and receive feedback from their peers.

AP (Advanced Placement) English Literature & Composition

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	English 11 A & B

Course Description: This course requires students to engage in extensive reading, as well as literary interpretation, analysis, and criticism through discussions and written work. It also requires students to work at the equivalent of a college-level literature course, so strong reading and writing skills, as well as motivation and desire to do college-level work, are required. Students may take the AP exam in May to potentially earn college credit.

Business and Technical Writing

Duration	1 Term	Open To	12th Graders
Course Type	Required or Elective	Prerequisite	English 11 B

Course Description: This course works with a variety of academic writing types and lengths including technical, argumentative, and informational essays, while providing a building block for future writing. In this class students will do job-related writing, such as creating and revising a resume and cover letter. Students should be prepared to write and create presentations over various topics and then create a stance and develop it through writing in the argumentative portion of this class.

Creative Writing

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	English 10 A & B

Course Description: This class is designed to give students the opportunity to write original fiction, poetry and personal narratives. Journal writing will be utilized, and the student will keep a writing portfolio throughout the term, a collection of their finished pieces. Some class time will be structured in a workshop format where the student is expected to give feedback on their classmates' writing. Class activities include individual writing, brainstorming, revising, reading, and other activities related to the creative process. The remainder of the class time will be spent on mini-lessons; short lectures and discussions of various and diverse writing concerns involving creativity, style, and grammar.

Earthbook: Literary Magazine

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	English 11 A & B (9th & 10th graders - by instructor permission)

Course Description: This class is for students wanting to participate in producing WHS's Earthbook; a collection of student writing, photography, and artwork. The curriculum will be composed of all the aspects involved in publishing; reading and selecting, layout and design, and marketing.

English 9

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	Must pass 9 A to continue with 9 B

Course Description: This class includes the study of a variety of literature with a concentration on improving reading strategies and the understanding of literary elements, techniques, and structures. Students focus on literary-specific vocabulary as well as key words throughout the literature studied. In addition, this course focuses on establishing the basics of academic and creative writing. Students begin by focusing on words, parts of speech, and sentence structure; the focus then shifts to forming effective paragraphs using the TEAC paragraph method. Revision, writing mechanics, and vocabulary will be emphasized throughout the course as tools to improve student writing. Technology literacy skills are addressed through various assignments and projects. English 9 A & B are offered in two formats; block courses (2 terms, 2 credits) and skinny courses (4 terms, 2 credits).

English 10

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th & 10th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	English 9 B and must pass 10 A to continue with 10 B

Course Description: This class focuses on reading a variety of literature and the application of both the literary elements (plot, setting, characterization, conflict) and the literary techniques (symbolism, metaphor, motif, etc). Steinbeck and Shakespeare author studies, thematic units, accompanied by vocabulary study and essay writing comprise the course content. Students will also be introduced to academic writing with the TEAC paragraph method and will focus on developing arguments and proper MLA citations and formatting. Students develop their skills in writing over extended time periods, conduct research projects, and create a wide range of essays for a variety of purposes and audiences. A portion of the course is dedicated to vocabulary instruction and practice.

English 11

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	10th & 11th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	English 10 B and must pass 11 A to continue with 11 B

Course Description: This class focuses on reading and analysis of texts with an emphasis on American literature. At the 11th grade level, students will be taught the skills to work through challenging texts by using annotation, writing, and discussion. The curriculum consists of readings such as *A Raisin in the Sun* and *The Great Gatsby*, as well as other short stories, poems, essays, and letters. Students will also hone their writing skills through argumentative, expository, and research pieces.

English 12 Reading

Duration	1 Term	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Required or Elective	Prerequisite	English 11 A

Course Description: Students will build their foundation for college-prep coursework by reading challenging texts, annotating intensively and thoughtfully, and discussing material academically. Students will study literature through the lenses of history and culture, which will range from the Classical era and Greek mythology, to novels in American literature and Modern literature, with *Lord of the Flies* and *Long Way Down*. Students will also work with supplemental articles and videos to enhance their learning through various mediums. Intensive work with vocabulary-building is also a key component of this course.

English 12 Writing

Duration	1 Term	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Required or Elective	Prerequisite	English 11 B

Course Description: The course work will utilize representative writing assignments used in first year college/university courses. A graduation essay and local scholarship essay will also be included. Structured through a basic process approach, the course will focus on pre-writing through revision activities. Also included will be a review of style, form and punctuation basics. Evaluation will include individually graded essays, as well as revision assignments, quizzes, and worksheets. Some emphasis is placed on developing study skills.

Modern Prose

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	English 9 A & B

Course Description: Modern Prose is a class designed around modern and contemporary texts. While students will complete a portion of the work independently, they will also engage in skills-based, whole-class work stemming from assigned class readings. Students will work to hone their skills in reading and analysis in the upper grade levels.

Practical Communication

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This class is designed to allow students to practice their practical communication skills in a variety of fun, engaging, and practical ways. Students will be participating in one-on-one interviews and discussions, small group collaboration, large group debates, and individual speeches. The course is designed to give students structure and practice in effective communication, incorporating different perspectives, and understanding the viewpoints of speakers. Class activities may involve: reader's theatre, mock trials, group discussions & presentations, debates, individual speeches, story-telling, creating podcasts and commentaries on a variety of activities, and will conclude with a choice assessment that will be a passion project.

Yearbook

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: Students will represent the HiLife Yearbook staff as they participate in this course. As a member of the yearbook, students will be responsible for using the online design program to produce the annual publication. Each member will have a role in designing their pages, which will include interviewing sources, taking pictures, writing stories, and selling advertisements. This class will also expose students to Photoshop, as they edit their images for a professional publication. Students will develop leadership and organizational skills, while working together as a team, as they have the opportunities for staff leadership positions, scholarships, and national and state awards. Grading is based on quality of work and fulfilling job descriptions.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Culinary Foundations	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Fibers & Fabrics	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Human Growth & Development	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
ProStart I A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	
ProStart II A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	ProStart I
PS Safety & Sanitation	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Service Industry Exploration	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	ProStart I & II

Culinary Foundations

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This class is an introductory course providing students with an opportunity to learn life skills that are useful for the home and for gainful employment. Students study food, nutrition, basic equipment and skills involved in food preparation in a laboratory situation. Many different foods are prepared and served as students learn cooking terms and techniques. Students will have to work as a team and learn how to be professional, collaborate, and delegate tasks. Students will use proper safety and sanitation practices, and how to care and maintain a commercial kitchen.

Fibers & Fabrics

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This is a project-based, introductory course using different types of fibers and fabrics to create projects that students can use. This could include constructing garments, designing home décor pieces, or creating art. This class is designed for the student who has an interest in being creative and would like to learn the basics of sewing, knitting, weaving, and other uses of fibers. Students will learn how to use a sewing machine, and other tools used when creating with fibers and fabrics. Art concepts will be taught, such as color variations, elements of design, and principles of design.

Human Growth & Development

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This class will help you understand how to work with and care for children as they grow. It explains how children develop physically, intellectually, social, and emotionally. Children are studied from the prenatal stage through the child's school-age stage of development. Whether you want to become a parent, work in a child-related field, or just spend time with children, this would be an informative course to take. This course will utilize the Empathy Belly and the Baby Think It Over simulation dolls.

ProStart I

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: ProStart I is an exclusive industry-driven program that launches students into their restaurant and food service careers. This course is for anyone who would like to learn how to cook, learn more about cooking, or possibly be interested in a career in the food industry. This class goes more in-depth than Culinary Foundations in regards to learning about different career options, and different aspects of working in a food service establishment. Topics cover industry basics, food safety, cooking methods, introduction to baking, and others in between. After successful completion of this course, a certificate of achievement (COA) will be earned.

ProStart II

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	ProStart I

Course Description: ProStart II is an exclusive, industry-driven program that launches students into their restaurant and food service careers. The structure of this course is very similar to that of ProStart I. Topics covered include introduction to marketing, food costing, nutrition, cooking a variety of dishes to plating and garnishing. After successful completion of this course, a certificate of achievement (COA) will be earned. CAOs in both ProStart I & II can result in scholarships for post-secondary culinary school.

PS Safety and Sanitation

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This class is based on the ServSafe program, which was created by leaders in the food service industry. The topics learned in this class are based around the same food safety issues restaurant professionals face every day. From the basics of handwashing, to more complex topics such as food borne pathogens, this class provides you with the building blocks to keep food safe.

PS Service Industry Exploration

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	ProStart I & II

Course Description: This is the capstone class for culinary arts. After successful completion of ProStart I and II, students can take this class to expand their knowledge of their culinary options beyond high school. Students will run a business out of the classroom to further their experience. Students will learn how to develop recipes, cost ingredients, set prices, market their product, keep an accurate accounting of their account, and other tasks involved in running a business.

HEALTH			
Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Personal Wellness	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Physical Health	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	

Personal Wellness

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This class will explore the world of social, emotional, and mental health and develop the skills necessary to improve and maintain optimal health within those categories. Other topics will also be discussed, including; environmental health, consumer health, and substance use, abuse, and nonuse. By the end of the term students should feel confident to make informed choices, to make positive changes in their lives, and to communicate better with the world around them. ****Note: This class will cover topics including discussion about mental health disorders, eating disorders, and other potentially triggering subjects for students. Information will be taught with empathy and sensitivity.****

Physical Health

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This class will explore various topics within the category of physical health such as: food and nutrition, CPR, First Aid, safety & survival, fitness, hygiene, prevention & control of diseases, birth control, and STIs. By the end of the term students should feel confident to make informed choices, to make positive changes in their lives, and to communicate better with the world around them. **Note: Sexual health topics and birth control will be covered. Please do not take this course if you are not able to participate in these discussions.**

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Advanced Computer Aided Drafting	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Computer-Aided Drafting (CAD)
Advanced Material Processing	11, 12	1 Term	Construction Technology
Computer-Aided Drafting (CAD)	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Introduction to ACE
Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Graphic Design	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Computer-Aided Drafting (CAD)
Construction Material Processing	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Introduction to ACE
Construction Technology	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Construction Material Processing
Introduction to ACE (Architecture, Construction & Engineering)	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Maker Capstone Class	11, 12	1 Term	Computer Science Principles, Introduction to ACE, Computer Aided Drafting (CAD)
Modern Architecture & Design	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Modern Media Production	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	

Advanced Computer Aided Drafting

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Computer-Aided Drafting (CAD)

Course Description: This course will teach students to master computer-aided drafting skills that combine both architectural and mechanical skills. There will be opportunities to develop projects for both the 3d printer and CNC machine. Students should be motivated to create and be prepared to produce detailed work.

Advanced Material Processing

Duration	1 Term	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Construction Technology

Course Description: This course further expands upon the skills and techniques acquired in the previous material processing courses. Construction skills that will be acquired will include: machine skills and equipment usage, hand and power tool capabilities, time management, interpreting plans, specs and working drawings, problem solving and conflict resolution, and material usage. Students will have lots of freedom and need to come with a desire to plan and create their own projects.

Computer Aided Drafting (CAD)

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Introduction to ACE

Course Description: Students will develop computer aided drafting skills using state of the art computer software and hardware. CAD skills will be used to design and draw basic shapes and then evolve into simple machines. Learning will be done through video tutorials at first and will change to more project-based work throughout the term.

Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Graphic Design

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Computer Aided Drafting (CAD)

Course Description: This course is designed to give the student a background in CNC. The class will create graphics that can be routed out on a piece of glass, wood or other soft metals. This class will include machining and finishing materials used to create a sign or small project. The possibilities are endless and rely on the student's creativity.

Construction Material Processing

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Introduction to ACE

Course Description: This course is designed to continue developing team building skills introduced in Introduction to ACE. This is the foundational course for the architecture and construction cluster. Students will learn proper construction terminology and safe instruction in hand and power tool usage through project construction. Students will experience plan development, reading project drawings, material identification, cost estimation and production.

Construction Technology

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Construction Material Processing

Course Description: This course is designed to give students an introduction to construction systems in today's society. Students will be responsible for the construction of individual and/or group project(s) built throughout the course. The project(s) will be determined by the needs and wants of the class, community, and school district as well as the experience of the classmates involved. There will be a wide range of topics including: job-site safety, foundations, rough framing, building envelope, exterior finishes, interior finishes, MEP's (mechanicals, electrical, and plumbing), and other topics within the construction cluster.

Introduction to ACE (Architecture, Construction, & Engineering)

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This course is designed to provide students with a basic introduction and overview to the topics available within the Industrial Technology Department. It will cover a wide range of study of the following areas: architecture, construction, engineering, graphic communication, manufacturing, power and energy, and transportation. Most units will include safety, hands-on work, and in some areas, a project. The curriculum is designed around exploration of these systems and their impacts on society. Students will also develop problem-solving skills, explore career awareness, and relate technology to math and science.

Maker Capstone Class

Duration	1 Term	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Comp. Science Princ., Intro. to ACE, AND CAD

Course Description: After taking basic classes in design, construction, and computer science, students may enroll in this Maker Capstone course. Students will have the freedom to apply all of their skills to create a project that requires skills in all the previous classes. Think Mark Rober!

Modern Architecture & Design

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This course is heavily focused on various aspects of architectural design. Students will learn how to design houses both inside and out. We will build skills both in sketching, software, and model building.

Modern Media Production

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: This course will teach students the basics of photography, graphic design, camera functions, video editing, media analysis, and filmmaking. Students will work individually and in groups to write, shoot, and edit their own projects. Sample student projects during the semester include PSA's, commercials, short films, music videos and news stories. Selected videos are screened during class throughout the semester to enhance the critique process. Motivation to create materials to promote the school and activities are a plus (possibly leading to OJT opportunities).

MATH			
Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Algebra I A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	
Algebra II A & B	10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Algebra I & Geometry
Algebra II College Prep A & B	10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Algebra I & Geometry
Calculus I A & B	11, 12	2 Terms	Pre-Calculus or Statistics
Essentials of Algebra A & B	9	2 Terms	
Geometry A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Algebra I
Pre-Calculus A & B	11, 12	2 Terms	Grade of C or above in Algebra II

Algebra I

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: Students will learn the basic structure, language, operations, and techniques of algebra and how to apply them to a variety of mathematical situations. Algebra I A includes solving, graphing, and writing linear equations, inequalities and systems. Algebra I B covers exponential, polynomial, radical, quadratic functions and factoring. Algebra I is offered in two formats: block courses are a two-term course (2 credits) and skinny courses are a four-term course (2 credits).

Algebra II

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	Algebra I & Geometry

Course Description: This course is taken after successfully completing both Algebra I and Geometry. Students will learn an overview of: Quadratic, Polynomial, Radical, Exponential, Logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Students who do not wish to take courses beyond minimum graduation requirements for math should take this course.

Algebra II College Prep

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	Algebra I & Geometry

Course Description: This course is taken after successfully completing both Algebra I and Geometry. Students will learn in depth about multiple facets of: Quadratic, Polynomial, Radical, Exponential, Logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Other topics could include Series/Sequences and Probability.

Students wanting to enroll in pre-calculus or college statistics should take this course.

Calculus

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Pre-Calculus <u>OR</u> Statistics

Course Description: Students will explore limits and continuity and how a derivative is defined by limits. Derivatives, applications of derivatives, optimization, Riemann sums, and integrals will all be covered in a college-prep manner. Students entering the fields of engineering, computer science, medicine, mathematics, and physical sciences in college are strongly encouraged to take this course.

Essentials of Algebra A & B

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: This is a two-term course taught on a block. Students who may have struggled in middle school mathematics will benefit from the embedded review taught before each Algebra I standard. The Essentials course incorporates Algebra I standards with Pre-algebra and basic Geometry skills. These skills will include, but are not limited to: rational numbers, algebraic expressions, the rectangular coordinate system, linear equations, area, perimeter, volume of geometric figures, and properties of triangles and circles.

Geometry

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	Algebra I

Course Description: This course is taken after a student has successfully passed Algebra I. In this course, students will learn and apply geometric principles and theorems to complex geometric situations using formalized mathematical arguments (Proofs). Students will also apply geometry skills combined with algebraic reasoning to solve real world scenarios. Over the course of a semester, students will be introduced to an extensive geometric vocabulary, and how to apply them with proper mathematical reasoning. More specifically, students will work with terms like congruence and similarity to make comparisons and draw conclusions about geometric figures.

Pre-Calculus

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Grade of C or above in Algebra II

Course Description: Students explore properties and relationships of functions namely linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic first term. The second term is composed mainly of trigonometry, including the unit circle, graphs of trigonometric functions, and verifying trigonometric identities, as well as an introduction of conic sections and linear algebra.

PERFORMING ARTS

Band & Choir

Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Applied Instrumental Music	10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Applied Vocal Music	10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Arranging for Band	10, 11, 12	1 Term	College-Prep Theory Fundamentals
Band	9, 10, 11, 12	1-4 Terms	Audition
College-Prep Theory Fundamentals	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Color Guard	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Audition
Concert Choir	9, 10, 11, 12	1-4 Terms	Audition
IS Instrumental Music Studies	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Audition & with teacher permission
EB Jazz Band (Early Bird)	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Audition
IS Vocal Music Studies	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Audition & with teacher permission
Music Enrichment	9, 10, 11, 12	1-4 Terms	
Music Theory & Aural Skills I	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	College-Prep Theory Fundamentals
Music Theory & Aural Skills II	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	College-Prep Theory Fundamentals & Music Theory & Aural Skills II
Studies in American Music	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	College-Prep Theory Fundamentals
Techniques in Musical Theatre	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	

Applied Instrumental Music

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: This class will allow the student to concentrate on their individual performance. Literature will consist of instrument specific etudes and technical exercises. Time may be spent preparing for All-State, SEIBA Honor Band, or college auditions. The class is open to any level of performer. An end of the term performance will be given in a public venue. This is an instrumental performance-based class.

Applied Vocal Music

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: This class will allow the student to concentrate on their individual performances in the world of vocal music. Literature will consist of enhancing vocal skills and learning technical exercises. Time may be spent preparing for OPUS, All-State, Honor Choir, Solo Literature, or College Auditions. The class is open to any level of performer. This is a vocal performance-based class and students will be required to sing and perform in class.

Arranging for Band

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	College-Prep Theory Fundamentals

Course Description: This class will explore arranging for the wind band and smaller wind ensembles using Finale music writing software. Students will arrange from scores, melodies, and by ear. This is a non-performance-based class.

Band

Duration	1-4 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Audition

Course Description: This class meets early bird and ½ of first block in term 1, and ½ of first block for terms 2, 3, and 4. Band provides a large group setting for the study of instrumental music through the performance of its literature. Materials are derived from a core curriculum of music literature with a specific teaching purpose and selected additional works of interest. Activities within the course include marching band, concert band, and the availability of smaller performing ensembles including jazz studies, pep band, solo and ensemble performance, and other performing groups of interest to the students in any given year. Out of school rehearsal for marching band and participation in all performances is required. Participation in some optional ensembles may require outside rehearsal time as well.

College-Prep Theory Fundamentals

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: This class will delve into basic music theory. Concepts covered include: note reading in all clefs, counting systems and time signatures, creating and using the circle of fifths, major and all forms of minor scales, constructing and analyzing triads and seventh chords, and defining common musical terminology.

Color Guard

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Audition

Course Description: This class meets early bird and ½ of first block daily during 1st term. Color guard provides for the study of music through visual expression. Incorporating elements of dance, theater, and gymnastics, the color guard performs as an integral part of the marching band. Non-instrumentalists may enroll here to participate in marching band. Students who play instruments may perform as members of the color guard, but should enroll under band. All color guard members will have considerable outside rehearsal required including the 4 day color guard camp and 6-day band camp in August. *Participation in Color Guard is determined by an audition the previous spring.*

Concert Choir

Duration	1-4 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Audition

Course Description: This class meets ½ a block for 4 terms and is open to any student. Choir provides a large group setting in which to explore the rich, living tradition of choral music. Topics in choir revolve around two main categories: 1) developing music literacy for each choir member, and 2) learning performance practice and choral history through the performance of a wide variety of choral music. Materials are derived from a core curriculum of music literature with specific teaching purposes and additional works of interest. Performance opportunities include 4-5 required (curricular) concerts throughout the school year and numerous optional performances. Participation in choir is required to be a member of extracurricular vocal ensembles.

IS (Independent Study) Instrumental Music Studies

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Audition & Teacher Permission

Course Description: This class is to be arranged individually with a music instructor. This class is an individual Projects of Merit designed to meet the individual needs or interests of students. Project approval and permission of the instructor required. Projects may be in the area of performance, advanced jazz studies, theory, or audio recording.

IS (Independent Study) Vocal Music Studies

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Audition & Teacher Permission

Course Description: This class is an overview of the history and development of music. Students will study theory, harmony, form, composition and a survey of the history of music.

Jazz Band

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: This class will study many styles of jazz music and perform at events including concerts and select basketball games.

Music Enrichment

Duration	1-4 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: Meets half of a block for 2 terms opposite the band or choir.

Music Theory & Aural Skills I

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	College-Prep Theory Fundamentals

Course Description: Students will implement higher-level musical language and grammar skills including musical notation, harmonic analysis, and part writing which will lead to a thorough understanding of music composition and music theory. Students will obtain and practice ear training skills and skills required for sight reading musical literature. They will recognize the development of music from an historical and cultural perspective and extend musical awareness beyond music currently familiar to the student.

Music Theory & Aural Skills II

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Music Theory & Aural Skills I

Course Description: Students will implement higher-level musical language and grammar skills including musical notation, harmonic analysis, and part writing which will lead to a thorough understanding of music composition and music theory. Students will obtain and practice ear training skills and skills required for sight reading musical literature. They will recognize the development of music from an historical and cultural perspective and extend musical awareness beyond music currently familiar to the student.

Studies in American Music

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	College-Prep Theory Fundamentals

Course Description: This class will focus on jazz history and theory, as well as jazz styles and improvisation. Participants will be required to sing or play an instrument. An end of the term performance will be given in a public venue.

Techniques in Musical Theatre

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: Singing, acting, and dancing! This class focuses on the skills needed for acting, vocal performance, and dance/movement. Students will learn memorization techniques, audition practices, and life as an actor in the world of Musical Theatre. The class is open to any level of performer. This is a performance-based class and students will be required to sing, act, and dance in class.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION			
Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
PE Fitness for Life	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
PE Strength & Conditioning	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
PE Team Sports	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
PE-SK (skinny) - B1, B2, C1, & C2	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Must be in Band OR Concert Choir (however, not needed if in both Band & Choir)

PE Fitness for Life

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: This class is designed and intended for students to learn and practice more individualized, fitness based activities and principles. Students will set goals they will work towards during the term. There will be some class discussions and notes to cover fitness principles and other topics related the body and/or nutrition. Activities and workouts learned can easily be applied throughout a students' lifetime. Activities *may* include: yoga, pilates, HIIT workouts, jump rope, dumbbell workouts, tabata, and zumba. Students will typically have about 10 minutes of free time at the end of class to participate in other activities such as basketball, volleyball, etc.

PE Strength & Speed

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: Strength and Conditioning is designed to build the foundation of an overall athlete. This class will cover: speed, plyometrics, lifting (primarily through free weights), stretching, and conditioning. Topics to also be covered include: healthy lifestyle and program design.

Weekly Schedule:

Monday - Thursday at Case Field, Friday at High School

PE Team Sports

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: Students will work within a team and play fast-paced, competitive sports. Emphasis will be put on strategy, team work, and positive sportsmanship. Activities *may* include: team handball, ultimate (frisbee and football), floor hockey, tchoukball, volleyball/nitroball, basketball, soccer, mat ball/kickball, and whiffle ball. Offered two terms of the school year, terms 1 and 4.

PE-SK (skinny) - B1, B2, C1 & C2

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Must be in Band <u>OR</u> Concert Choir

Course Description: This course is designed for students enrolled in **Choir or Band** (but not both) who wish to fulfill their physical education requirement opposite of their choir or band skinny. PE Skinnies meet for half of a class block over the course of **two terms**. Students will experience a blend of team-based games and individual fitness activities that promote overall health, teamwork, and lifelong wellness. Emphasis will be placed on sportsmanship, goal setting, personal improvement, and maintaining an active lifestyle. Activities may include a variety of games along with fitness activities like yoga, HIIT workouts, dumbbell exercises, and more.

SCIENCE			
Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Advanced Chemistry A & B	11, 12	2 Terms	Chemistry & Algebra I OR with teacher permission
Advanced Physics A & B	11, 12	2 Terms	Physics & Algebra II
Anatomy & Physiology A & B	10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Biology OR with teacher permission
Biology A & B	9	2 Terms	
Chemistry A & B	10	2 Terms	Biology & Algebra I
Conservation Science	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Biology
Environmental Science	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	Biology preferred, but not required
Forensics (NEW for 2026-2027)	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	
Physics A & B	11	2 Terms	Chemistry
*PS Human Biology (BIO-154) (Offered in 2027-2028)	10, 11, 12	1 Term	Apply to Kirkwood AND Prior completion of Biology and Chemistry strongly recommended

***PS = Post-Secondary Course**

Advanced Chemistry

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Chemistry & Algebra I OR with teacher permission

Course Description: This course covers the study of matter and energy, and the part they play in chemical reactions. Taking this course will expose and engage you in activities that involve problem solving and reasoning with chemical concepts to help you develop your scientific literacy skills. You will investigate and verify scientific concepts and principles by analyzing data, collected through your own experiments or gathered from other reliable sources giving you an understanding of the interactions of matter at the macroscopic and particulate levels, as well as the symbolism used in chemistry.

Advanced Physics

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Physics & Algebra II

Course Description: This course is a study of motion and the forces that affect it. You will conduct investigations to verify the equations that govern motion with hands-on labs, as well as simulations. Physics is used in a wide variety of occupations, and will help you build problem-solving skills. Topics covered are Kinematics (motion), Dynamics (forces), Energy, Circular Motion & Gravitation, Waves, and other topics as time allows.

Anatomy & Physiology

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Biology OR with teacher permission

Course Description: This course is a fast paced study of the structure and function of thirteen different systems within the human body. Students focus on interactive learning and hands-on activities like dissections and modeling labs. It combines scientific principles with real-world applications, uses multimedia like videos and online simulations, and includes activities such as themed scavenger hunts and case studies to make the material memorable and exciting.

Biology

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	

Course Description: This course investigates life and its interactions with the world around it. It is designed to practice problem solving and reasoning while gaining scientific literacy skills. Topics covered include: interactions, dynamics, matter & energy in ecosystems, inheritance & variation of traits, natural selection & evolution of populations, and common ancestry and speciation.

Chemistry

Duration	2 Term	Open To	10th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	Biology & Algebra I

Course Description: In this course you will investigate matter, energy and its interactions at the large scale, as well as the very tiny. This course is designed to practice problem solving and reasoning while gaining scientific literacy skills. Topics covered in this course are thermodynamics in earth's systems, structure and properties of matter, molecular processes in earth's systems, chemical reactions in our world, and energy from chemical and nuclear reactions.

Conservation Science

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Biology preferred, but not required

Course Description: Conservation Science is the study of human interaction with the environment. This course will challenge you to think about the way we rely on the earth, how we impact it, and how we can change it. This is a HANDS-ON class! We will discuss policies, regulations, and decisions influenced by human actions and DESIGN and CREATE solutions to these issues, focusing on our local natural systems.

Environmental Science - NEW for 2026-2027!

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Biology preferred, but not required

Course Description: Environmental science is a thrilling, interdisciplinary field that challenges us to solve the most pressing and complex problems facing the planet today. Investigate the intricate web of life, ecosystems, and human impacts on the planet thorough HANDS ON labs and activities.

Forensics - NEW for 2026-2027!

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: This course delves into the scientific analysis behind solving crimes. Students will explore how forensic scientists apply biology, chemistry, and physics to examine and interpret physical evidence such as DNA, fingerprints, blood spatter, chemical residues, and more. Through hands-on experiments and detailed case studies, learners will develop strong analytical and critical-thinking skills while understanding how rigorous scientific methods support criminal investigations and the justice system. *Content Warning: This course may cover sensitive topics related to crime scenes, violence, death, and forensic evidence. Some content might be distressing to individuals affected by trauma or related experiences.*

Physics

Duration	2 Term	Open To	11th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	Chemistry

Course Description: This course focuses on a couple of main ideas: how energy is transferred among Earth's systems, how we take advantage of it, as well as our current understanding of the history of the Earth and Universe. We'll explore these topics through the concepts of physics that scientists use to test our ideas about these things. The goal of the course is to understand the topics above and the underlying science that goes with them, but also to help you develop as a science-thinker and learner.

PS Human Biology (BIO-154) - offered in 2026-2027

Duration	2 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Prior completion of Biology & Chemistry strongly recommended

Course Description: Examines how human form and function work together to maintain homeostatic balance, and how dysfunctions can lead to disease processes. Explores fundamental biological principles as they apply to the human body.

SOCIAL SCIENCE			
Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
American Government	12	1 Term	
Contemporary World History	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	World Geography
Economics	10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Modern European History	11, 12	1 Term	U.S. History
Modern US History (1952-1979)	11, 12	1 Term	U.S. History
Modern US History (1979-Present)	11, 12	1 Term	U.S. History
Psychology	10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Sociology	10, 11, 12	1 Term	
US History A & B	10	2 Terms	World Geography
World Geography	9	1 Term	

American Government

Duration	1 Term	Open To	12th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	

Course Description: Students learn about the purpose, structures and powers of government systems; related political and civic institutions such as political parties, interest groups and mass media; and the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

Contemporary World History

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	World Geography

Course Description: Stretching from the Post-War era to the present, this course will give students insight into the political, economic, and social forces that have shaped the globalized world we live in today. Particular attention will be given to international perspectives on world events.

Economics

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: Students learn how to answer basic economic questions regarding what to produce, how to produce, and for whom to produce in a world of limited resources. Microeconomic concepts are addressed such as demand, supply, equilibrium price, as well as skills for effective participation in the marketplace. Macroeconomic concepts such as the measurement of economic goals and the effects of monetary and fiscal policy are also addressed.

Modern European History

Duration	1 Term	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	U.S. History

Course Description: Students examine the Enlightenment, democratic political revolutions, industrialization, and European imperialism. A primary focus of this course is connecting modern themes with past events and issues.

Modern US History (1952-1979)

Duration	1 Term	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Required or Elective	Prerequisite	U.S. History

Course Description: Students will study the political, social, and economic forces that shaped Americans' experience during the postwar decades. Particular emphasis will be placed on the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Vietnam War.

Modern US History (1979-Present)

Duration	1 Term	Open To	11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	U.S. History

Course Description: Students will study the political, social, and economic forces that shaped Americans' experience during the later decades of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century. Particular emphasis will be placed upon the rise of the Religious Right, domestic terrorism, and the ensuing culture wars that have divided Americans today.

Psychology

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: Students will learn about the study of behavior and mental processes. Emphasis will be placed on connecting psychological theories and concepts to real life.

Sociology

Duration	1 Term	Open To	10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: Students will learn about the study of social groups, norms, and institutions from a sociological perspective. Emphasis will be placed on the application of sociological methods and concepts, as well as the development of sociological theories over time.

US History A & B

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	10th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	World Geography

Course Description: The course begins with the Civil War and concludes with WWII. Various methods are used to present the wide range of material that is offered. Events of US history are presented in a cause and effect relationship, so that the student may gain an understanding of the main concepts and topics. This allows the student to connect to previous knowledge and build on their knowledge to take future courses.

World Geography

Duration	1 Terms	Open To	9th Graders
Course Type	Required	Prerequisite	

Course Description: Where we live shapes not only how we live, but who we are. In addition to map reading skills, students will study the geography of the Eastern and Western hemispheres to discover just how much Earth's natural landscape affects the way people live.

Support Programs			
Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
LIEP	9, 10, 11, 12	1-4 Terms	Must meet eligibility requirements
Succeed	9, 10, 11, 12	1-4 Terms	By Referral ONLY (see school counselor for more information)

LIEP (Language Instruction Educational Program)

Duration	1-4 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Support	Prerequisite	Must meet eligibility requirements

Course Description: This class provides direct English instruction to students who know more than one language and meet qualifications for the program. LIEP curriculum focuses on interdisciplinary vocabulary development along with many aspects of reading, writing, speaking and listening instruction to boost individual student success. LIEP students also receive individualized attention and assistance with homework.

Proveemos instrucción en inglés para estudiantes que saben más de un idioma y califican para el programa. EL plan de estudios del programa LIEP se enfoque en el desarrollo interdisciplinario del vocabulario junto con las habilidades de leer, escribir, hablar y entender el inglés para mejorar el éxito individual del estudiante. Los estudiantes del programa LIEP reciben atención individualizada y ayuda con tareas.

Succeed

Duration	1-4 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	By Referral Only

Course Description: This course is an intervention-based program to help students be successful in life. The course works on building study skills, working together to develop strategies needed to be successful to pass classes, and developing life skills. The first part of class is large/small group lessons and the second part is individual skill building. The graded assignments submitted for class will focus on goal setting, time management, organization, advocacy, communication, self-reflection, and self-discovery.

Work & College Prep			
Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
Adult Living	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Term	
Career Internship	9, 10, 11, 12	1-4 Terms	Application & Meeting with Counselor
iJag I A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	
iJAG II A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	iJAG I
PS How College Works	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Kirkwood Course - must apply to Kirkwood to participate
Work Experience	9, 10, 11, 12	1-4 Terms	Must meet eligibility requirements

Adult Living

Duration	1 Term	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: In this course, students will learn independent living skills, such as setting up and maintaining a living space, schedules and routines, community transportation options, living with roommates and other important topics. Students will also learn to feel confident in making decisions for themselves that will help them become positive, productive citizens in the Washington community. Skills taught will include self-determination, getting around in the Washington community, and being an advocate for yourself, in addition to other topics.

Career Internship

Duration	1 - 4 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Application & Meeting with Counselor

Course Description: This course is a job shadowing experience during the school day with a community member. It is designed to expose students to careers of interest. The internship process begins by meeting with a counselor to discuss potential placements. The internship is set up by the student. Requirements include completing a career internship application, career internship agreement, a daily journal, verification forms, a reflections paper and a thank you note. The student must meet with his/her counselor or designee once a week to discuss progress. This experience is graded on a pass/fail basis and students receive 1 credit for successful completion.

iJAG I

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: The iJAG (Iowa's Jobs for America's Graduates) elective course focuses on Seven Essential Constructs: Career Readiness, Character and Self Development, Communication and Technology, Critical Thinking and Productivity, Life Skills, Self Advocacy & Conflict Resolution, and Work Based Learning. Lessons and activities are student centered using project-based learning (PBL) as the mode of instructions with a Trauma Informed Care Approach. iJAG's interactive class has a student-led Career Association where students focus on careers, leadership, and social and civic responsibility. Students will participate in state-wide conferences with an opportunity to attend national conferences showcasing their talents in competitions involving careers and employment opportunities. iJAG students are given the opportunity to experience work-based learning through job shadowing, internships, apprenticeships and on-the-job-training. The iJAG class will support young leaders to find their passion and purpose through individualized planning and then connect them with the resources they need to move into the workforce and thrive. **Additionally, seniors will receive 12 months of school-to-work follow-up services after high school.*

iJAG II

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	None

Course Description: Students will continue with the iJAG (Iowa's Jobs for America's Graduates) elective course, focusing on Seven Essential Constructs: Career Readiness, Character and Self Development, Communication and Technology, Critical Thinking and Productivity, Life Skills, Self Advocacy & Conflict Resolution, and Work Based Learning. Lessons and activities are student centered using project-based learning (PBL) as the mode of instructions with a Trauma Informed Care Approach. iJAG's interactive class has a student-led Career Association where students focus on careers, leadership, and social and civic responsibility. Students will participate in state-wide conferences with an opportunity to attend national conferences showcasing their talents in competitions involving careers and employment opportunities. iJAG students are given the opportunity to experience work-based learning through job shadowing, internships, apprenticeships and on-the-job-training. The iJAG class will support young leaders to find their passion and purpose through individualized planning and then connect them with the resources they need to move into the workforce and thrive. **Additionally, seniors will receive 12 months of school-to-work follow-up services after high school.*

PS How College Works

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Apply to Kirkwood

Course Description: The final product in this introductory college-style course is YOU. You'll use self-assessment of skills, interests, values, and personality types to match natural abilities with best-fit majors or careers. Main projects include a presentation on a career choice and a detailed analysis of colleges that match your goals and interests. Improve your communication skills, interpersonal skills, and wellness.

Work Experience

Duration	1-4 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Must meet eligibility requirements

Course Description: This class consists of two components: in school activities and instruction and career exploration/training experiences in the community. In school, students practice soft skills that are necessary for successful employment. In the community, students use the skills learned in school to be good employees.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Course	Grade	Duration	Prerequisite Course(s)
German I A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	
German II A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	German I
Spanish I A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	
Spanish II A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Spanish I
Spanish III A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Spanish II
Spanish IV A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Spanish III
PS Elementary Spanish I A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Apply to Kirkwood
PS Elementary Spanish II A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Apply to Kirkwood AND PS Elementary Spanish I OR placement test
PS Intermediate Spanish I A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Apply to Kirkwood AND PS Elementary Spanish I OR placement test
PS Intermediate Spanish II A & B	9, 10, 11, 12	2 Terms	Apply to Kirkwood AND PS Elementary Spanish I OR placement test

***PS = Post-Secondary Course**

PLEASE NOTE: World language is not required for high school graduation. World language is a requirement for admission to some colleges. Students should check requirements at colleges of interest.

German I

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: Students will acquire beginning skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing German. This course includes oral and written practice, audio and video activities, projects, and learning games. This course emphasizes communication, cultures, communities, comparisons, and connections to German-speaking countries and people.

German II

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	German I

Course Description: Students will review grammar from German I and continue to acquire new vocabulary, verb tenses, and grammar.

Spanish I

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	

Course Description: This is an introductory high school Spanish course. In this course, students will build their foundations in the four competencies; reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students will learn the basics of the Spanish language; such as the alphabet, verb conjugation, and matching the gender of articles.

Spanish II

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Spanish I

Course Description: In this course, students will build on the skills that they developed in Spanish I, as they continue to develop their skills in the four competencies. They will also learn more vocabulary and grammar tenses.

Spanish III

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Spanish II

Course Description: In this course, students will build on the skills they developed in Spanish I and II. They will continue to develop their skills in the four competencies, as well as learn more vocabulary and grammar tenses.

Spanish IV

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Spanish III

Course Description: In this course, students will build on the skills they have developed in Spanish I, II, and III and continue to develop their skills in the four competencies. They will also learn more vocabulary and grammar tenses.

PS Elementary Spanish I (FLS-141)

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Kirkwood Course - must apply to Kirkwood to participate

Course Description: This course is an introductory Kirkwood Spanish course. Students will develop fundamental skills in the Spanish Language. Emphasis is on acquiring the proficiency to communicate with the native speaker in everyday situations. This course includes activities that promote an understanding and knowledge of the Spanish-speaking peoples and their culture.

PS Elementary Spanish II (FLS-142)

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Kirkwood Course - must apply to Kirkwood to participate AND PS Elem. Spanish I

Course Description: Allows the student to communicate with others on subjects of daily common experience in most informal and a limited number of formal conversations on activities related to family, work, health, friends, leisure activities, social life, environment, etc. The vocabulary used in this course is non-specialized, containing everyday words as well as frequently used expressions, all within a cultural context. Cultural facts from Hispanic and Latin American cultures will also be presented in the classroom.

PS Intermediate Spanish I (FLS-241)

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Kirkwood Course - must apply to Kirkwood to participate AND PS Elem. Spanish II

Course Description: Provides practice of language beyond the controlled situations of the elementary course. Develops fundamental skills in Spanish through activities aimed at expressing original ideas and conveying messages in correct Spanish with the aid of authentic resources. Class activities offer advanced training in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and understanding the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. Grammar study includes a review of previously introduced topics as well as new ones.

PS Intermediate Spanish II (FLS-242)

Duration	2 Terms	Open To	9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders
Course Type	Elective	Prerequisite	Kirkwood Course - must apply to Kirkwood to participate AND Interm. Spanish I

Course Description: Enables students to continue to develop all communication skills, using primarily materials from literature, contemporary newspapers and magazines aimed at providing a better understanding of the Hispanic and Latin cultures and pertinent current issues. Class activities include pronunciation exercises, some grammar review and class discussion that promotes spontaneous conversation.